Dear Parents,

Our Grade 3/4 Camp at Forest Edge proved to be a great success. The venue was excellent (except for the March flies!), the food was great and the preparation thorough. I was very proud of the way our children handled the challenges and trust each has learnt a lot including about themselves.

They managed the physical effort, the heat and their personal responsibilities very well indeed. I thank Mr C, Mrs Fowler, Mrs Lowrie and Barbara very much for their energy and enthusiasm in providing such a great experience.

Congratulations to all involved.

Working Bee

Friday’s Working Bee was attended by only a few families each of whom contributed significantly in achieving the core aims of the evening.

Our gardens have been weeded, priority tree pruning undertaken, mulching and removal of trees, a top up of the jumping pit and new plantings received some TLC. Finding a suitable time is always tricky but we will continue to have a working bee each term. I thank those who took on tasks at a time of their own choosing.

Your support is always much appreciated.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Next Tuesday is Parent Teacher Interviews time again and I encourage all to take advantage of this formal contact with your child’s teacher. The attached slip is to be returned as soon as possible and a confirmation note will come home Friday.

Social Skill

Our Social Skill program has a theme each term which is then expanded through fortnightly skills which are explained, practiced and acknowledged. This terms theme is Getting Along an the skill was Friendliness.

A selection of students was yesterday awarded for their friendly manner which has helped our school to get off to such a great start to 2012. Congratulations go to Jack, Paris, Axel, Lachlan and Oscar (absent Charlotte and Nicholas)

Our new focus is Tolerance.

Good Friday Appeal

The Royal Children’s Hospital is a world class facility with a proud history of community support. This year’s school driven fundraising will be directed to isolettes for the care of new born babies requiring hospitalisation. A website has been created for your interest and support. I encourage families to consider a donation via http://fundraise.goodfridayappeal.com.au/event/s4k2012.

Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

You would all agree that Glenys does a great job getting our kids safely to and from school. Last week we attached a nomination form for you to fill out to nominate Glenys for School Crossing Supervisor of the Year Award. Nominations close 30th March 2012 so could you please return your forms to school no later than Wednesday 21st March so ensure that we get them in on time. Thank you.

And finally

Could I remind anyone interested in participating on School Council to please contact me or Mel Brown our Council President. We can explain what is involved and how easy it is to be part of the team.

See you at the Cinema Saturday night.

Regards,
Stephen Keating
Principal.
The last two weeks have been very full of great things watching the Preps settle into school life and a fantastic Grade 3/4 camp at Forest Edge. Just like the new Preps who have been developing their confidence and becoming more independent so too the Grade 3/4 students were working on the same skills at camp. Some things were challenging like the uphill hike in the heat, or getting to sleep in an unfamiliar place but they gave it a go. It was a delight to see them succeed in so many big and small ways. One example that I’d like to share was seeing a student manage to tie a shoelace after three days of trying. It might sound a small thing that many others had already accomplished but it was such a big achievement for this one student. The success of the camp can also be attributed to the incredible work of the teaching staff. Their professionalism, patience and perseverance are to be commended.

First aid assistance and medication administration became one of my roles on the camp. I’d like to thank all the parents who provided such clear information about the regular and “if required” medications like Panadol that their children require. I thought it might be a timely to share a tip that I received at a recent first aid refresher. Parents may have heard of the acronym DRS ABCD which covers the principles of first aid and injury assessment. This acronym guides the first aid response by raising the following questions and check points:

- Dangers? - to both the first aider and others
- Responsive?
- Send for help
- Airway
- Breathing?
- Circulation or Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation - CPR
- Defibrillation

The “send for help” prompting is a new addition to this check list. On previous lists it was included last as an E for emergency. Elevating it on the list encourages those attending the injured to make an early call to 000 (or 112 from a mobile or to delegate this task) as survival from serious events relies heavily on rapid response. The point that I gained from my recent training was that when the incident involves a collapse particularly when the person is older and unconscious then it is also wise to consider if an automatic defibrillator is in close proximity. As you may already know these machines are located in shopping centers, airports, major sporting venues, and they are often located in smaller medical facilities. They are simple to use and talk the user through the process. Most importantly they save lives and survival rates increase significantly if this technology is used by first aiders who have also commenced and maintained CPR until the ambulance arrives. Of course we never want to be in this position but if you are the “send for help” check point can also prompt the thought, “is there a defibrillator close by?”

Most families will already be familiar with the role that I play at the school and I look forward to getting to know the new families. Each week I will be at the school for two days, this includes every Monday and then one other day during the week. If you would like to speak to me, or arrange for me to chat to your child this can be organised. Below is a form which you can fill out and return to the school, alternatively you visit or call to speak to me. Some families who are going through challenging times, due to illness or other unexpected life events, find that their child benefits from some extra support. When we are aware of a particular need teaching staff and I can work in conjunction to provide the level of care that assists both the child and family to cope with these difficulties.

Barbara Kingwill – Chaplain BBPS

Outside School Hours Care

Welcome to all the “old” and new families to our O.S.H.C. Program of 2012. We have started the year with 6 new Preps settling into our Program very well. Children must remember to bring a broad brimmed hat to After School Care (A.S.C.) during Terms 1 and 4. Spare hats can be kept in the O.S.H.C. room, especially the Preps who are encouraged to keep their hats in their lockers. Bookings and cancellations can be made through the Office or by contacting me directly by phone or text message. If possible, can families book/cancel as early as possible, so as to free up spaces for families who may need care for their children. Before School Care (B.S.C.) has a number of places available except for Tuesday with only a few places left. Places are still available every night in A.S.C. except Thursday with limited places left.

The Federal Government has introduced a new National Quality Framework (N.Q.F.) for Childcare Centres which replaces the National Quality Accreditation process. The N.Q.F. will bring all childcare centres under the same Regulations across Australia. One of the requirements of the new Regulations is that all staff working in the childcare area will be qualified and one staff member must have a Diploma in Children’s Services. Helen and I are already working towards becoming qualified. The Victorian Government implemented new Licensing Regulations over the last two years which will assist us in transferring across to the new system. Families are invited to have an input into a Quality Improvement Plan which has to be in place by 30th
April, 2012. Please speak to me if you would like to do this. This Plan, once completed, will be available for Parents to read, as is our Policies. If families have any questions about the N.Q.F. or any other issues concerning O.S.H.C. please do not hesitate to speak to me.

If family details have changed from last year, especially contact numbers or medical conditions, could you please inform me of the new information. The more information we have on your children will assist staff in planning a program that will cater for their needs.

Lyn Mitchard

**Buln Buln Junior Football Training**

Training for the Under 13's commences tomorrow, Wednesday 22 February at the Buln Recreation Reserve for the 2012 season.

Training starts at 5.00 pm. Anyone who is interested can turn up on the night or if parents need any information they can contact Steve Symes, Club President on 0413304631.

**Gulls Netball Club**

Affiliated with the Warragul and District Netball Association.

**WINTER SEASON REGISTRATION NIGHT**

Wednesday 7th March 4.00- 6.00PM.

At Burke Street Netball courts.

All past, present and new players welcome.


We are a very family orientated club and are always looking to encourage people to become involved.

For more information contact:

Lisa Williamson 0428 999 931

**Lost**

Pink drink bottle lost at Gr. 3/4 camp at Forest Edge. If found please return to the school office.

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**Parent/Guardian Chaplain Referral**

Student Name: __________________________ Grade __________________

Parent's/Guardian's Name: __________________________

Contact phone number/s: __________________________

- I/We would like to meet with the Chaplain
- I/We would like our/my child to meet with the Chaplain

Concerns you may have (optional):

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I/We give permission for the Chaplain to see my/our child.
(Permission may be withdrawn in writing at any time.)

Signed: __________________________ Date: ____________